Cowlitz Transit Authority

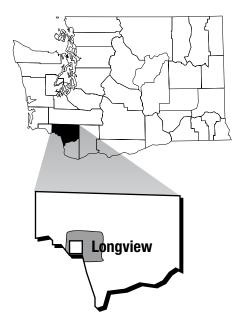
Steve Harris, Longview Street/ Transit Superintendent

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System Snapshot

• Operating Name: Community Urban Bus Service (CUBS)



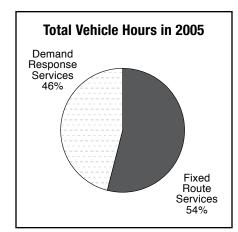
• Service Area: Cities of Longview and Kelso

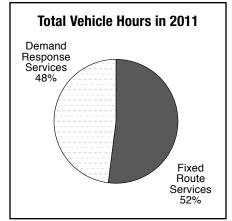
• Congressional District: 3

• Legislative District: 19

• Type of Government: Public Transportation Benefit Area

- Governing Body: Five-member Board of Directors comprised of one county commissioner and two councilmembers each from Longview and Kelso.
- Tax Authorized: 0.1 percent sales and use tax approved in November 1987.
- Types of Service: Five fixed routes and Paratransit service for persons with disabilities who cannot use fixed route service.
- Days of Service: Weekdays, between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; and Saturdays, three fixed routes, between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Base Fare: \$.50 per boarding, fixed route; Paratransit \$.25 per boarding.





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Current Operations

CUBS operates five fixed routes and complementary Paratransit service for persons with disabilities, Monday through Friday. On Saturday, CUBS operates three fixed routes.

The city of Longview, under contract with the Cowlitz Transit Authority, undertakes all administrative, operations, and maintenance functions for CUBS. A private, nonprofit operator under contract with CUBS provides Paratransit services to persons with disabilities.

Revenue Service Vehicles

Fixed Route – Seven transit coaches, all equipped with wheelchair lifts, model years ranging from 1998 to 2003.

Paratransit – Nine minibuses operated under lease, all ADA accessible, model years ranging from 2000 to 2005.



Facilities

CUBS' administration, operations, and maintenance functions, including two maintenance bays and covered parking for the buses and Paratransit vehicles, are located at 254 Oregon Way.

The Transfer Facility is located at 1135 12th Avenue, Longview.

There are 33 bus shelters located along routes in Longview and Kelso.

Intermodal Connections

Two routes serve the Amtrak depot in Kelso hourly. CUBS connects with intercity bus systems at Greyhound Lines' station in Kelso.

CUBS connects with the rural service provided by Lower Columbia Community Action Council at the Transit Transfer Facility.

CUBS has designed routes to serve local elementary and secondary schools, as well as the Lower Columbia Community College.

The Wahkiakum Community Van connects with the CUBS fixed route two days a week.

2005 Achievements

- Participated with the City of Longview to construct a vehicle wash facility.
- Continued working with the Council of Government to complete a Strategic Plan.
- CUBS had no reportable accidents in 2005.
- Completed update of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Plan with assistance from the Citizen Advisory Committee.
- CUBS became a member of the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool.
- FTA Triennial review was completed with no findings.
- LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc was retained by the Community Transportation Association of America to perform an operational assessment of CUBS. The assessment determined that the transit system was operating efficiently and making the best use of available funds.



2006 Objectives

- Replace two Paratransit minibuses.
- Increase ridership.
- Provide additional training for drivers.
- Purchase security system.
- Continue to maintain existing service levels.

Long-range Plans (2007 through 2011)

- Continue to contract with the city of Longview.
- Continue to search for additional funding sources.
- Replace Paratransit minibuses as needed.
- Replace transit coaches as needed.



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	2003	2004	2005	% Change	2006	2007	2008	2011
Annual Operating Information								
Service Area Population	47,120	47,140	47,250	0.23%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fixed Route Services								
Revenue Vehicle Hours	16,860	16,939	16,860	-0.47%	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
Total Vehicle Hours	16,860	16,939	16,860	-0.47%	17,000	17,000	17,000	17,000
Revenue Vehicle Miles	217,295	216,429	215,859	-0.26%	217,000	217,000	217,000	217,000
Total Vehicle Miles	217,295	216,429	215,859	-0.26%	217,000	217,000	217,000	217,000
Passenger Trips	325,544	336,517	322,730	-4.10%	340,000	340,000	345,000	350,000
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	42,201	49,470	49,381	-0.18%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fatalities	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Reportable Injuries	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Collisions	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Employees FTEs	12.0	12.0	13.0	8.33%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Operating Expenses	\$1,131,661	\$1,176,407	\$1,236,946	5.15%	\$1,295,000	\$1,351,000	\$1,408,000	\$1,588,000
Farebox Revenues	\$91,239	\$95,882	\$93,126	-2.87%	\$94,320	\$94,320	\$94,320	\$94,320
Demand Response Services								
Revenue Vehicle Hours	13,329	13,425	13,675	1.86%	14,000	15,000	15,000	16,000
Total Vehicle Hours	13,025	13,770	14,328	4.05%	14,000	15,000	15,000	16,000
Revenue Vehicle Miles	124,726	132,595	139,713	5.37%	140,000	142,000	142,000	145,000
Total Vehicle Miles	127,176	133,447	142,350	6.67%	140,000	142,000	142,000	145,000
Passenger Trips	41,127	42,282	43,033	1.78%	44,000	45,000	45,000	46,000
Diesel Fuel Consumed (gallons)	14,587	17,023	17,718	4.08%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fatalities	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Reportable Injuries	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Collisions	0	0	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Employees FTEs	8.0	10.0	10.0	0.00%	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Operating Expenses	\$635,131	\$662,195	\$674,768	1.90%	\$678,000	\$736,000	\$798,000	\$1,016,000
Farebox Revenues	\$4,749	\$5,408	\$5,609	3.72%	\$5,680	\$5,680	\$5,680	\$5,680

	2003	2004	2005	% Change	2006	2007	2008	2011
Annual Revenues								
Sales Tax	\$940,663	\$857,856	\$952,941	11.08%	\$979,000	\$1,007,000	\$1,035,000	\$1,123,000
Farebox Revenues	\$95,988	\$101,290	\$98,735	-2.52%	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Federal Section 5307 Operating	\$506,686	\$612,666	\$700,753	14.38%	\$597,000	\$595,000	\$472,000	\$615,000
State Special Needs Grants	\$0	\$65,153	\$17,204	-73.59%	\$85,000	\$33,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
Other	\$220,995	\$54,131	\$228,991	323.03%	\$405,000	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$105,000
Total	\$1,764,332	\$1,691,096	\$1,998,624	18.19%	\$2,166,000	\$1,840,000	\$1,762,000	\$1,993,000
Annual Operating Expenses								
Annual Operating Expenses	\$1,766,792	\$1,838,602	\$1,911,714	3.98%	\$1,973,000	\$2,087,000	\$2,206,000	\$2,604,000
Total	\$1,766,792	\$1,838,602	\$1,911,714	3.98%	\$1,973,000	\$2,087,000	\$2,206,000	\$2,604,000
Annual Capital Purchase Obligations								
CM/AQ and Other Federal Grants	\$527,366	\$207,174	\$0		<i>\$0</i>	\$0	\$0	<i>\$0</i>
Federal Section 5307 Capital Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$106,000	\$112,000	\$240,000	\$112,000
Local Funds	\$131,842	\$51,793	\$0		\$26,000	\$28,000	\$60,000	\$28,000
Total	\$659,208	\$258,967	\$0	N.A.	\$132,000	\$140,000	\$300,000	\$140,000
Ending Balances, December 31								
Unrestricted Cash and Investments	\$3,231,260	\$2,918,954	\$2,892,342	-0.91%	\$3,037,000	\$2,737,000	\$2,208,000	\$594,000
Total	\$3,231,260	\$2,918,954	\$2,892,342	-0.91%	\$3,037,000	\$2,737,000	\$2,208,000	\$594,000

Performance Measures for 2005 Operations

	Fixed Route	Services	Demand Response Services		
	Cowlitz Transit Authority	Small City Averages	Cowlitz Transit Authority	Small City Averages	
Fares/Operating Cost	7.53%	7.42%	.83%	2.35%	
Operating Cost/Passenger Trip	\$3.83	\$4.97	\$15.68	\$23.06	
Operating Cost/Revenue Vehicle Mile	\$5.73	\$6.04	\$4.83	\$4.95	
Operating Cost/Revenue Vehicle Hour	\$73.37	\$93.47	\$49.34	\$70.04	
Operating Cost/Total Vehicle Hour	\$73.37	\$86.75	\$47.09	\$61.09	
Revenue Vehicle Hours/Total Vehicle Hour	100.0%	93.14%	95.44%	87.99%	
Revenue Vehicle Hours/FTE	1,297	1,033	1,368	1,123	
Revenue Vehicle Miles/Revenue Vehicle Hour	12.80	15.79	10.22	14.29	
Passenger Trips/Revenue Vehicle Hour	19.1	20.8	3.1	3.2	
Passenger Trips/Revenue Vehicle Mile	1.50	1.37	0.31	0.22	

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